



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE


Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Thomas W. Carr, Jr.  
Fire Chief

MEMORANDUM

April 17, 2008

TO: Phil Alperson  
Montgomery County BRAC Coordinator

FROM: Thomas W. Carr, Jr.   
Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Final Environmental Impact Statement for BRAC Implementation at the  
National Naval Medical Center

My staff has reviewed the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for Activities to Implement 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Actions at National Naval Medical Center*. I would like to re-emphasize the importance of implementing measures that will alleviate additional traffic congestion associated with Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions involving the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC). As I had stated in my earlier correspondence (memorandum to you dated January 10, 2008), I am concerned with the impact of additional traffic on response times of MCFRS vehicles responding to incidents in the vicinity of the NNMC/Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC).

To this end, I fully support the potential external roadway and intersection improvements identified within the Final EIS. The proposed additions of new through-lanes and turn lanes on major roads in the vicinity of WRNMMC could result in reduced congestion; thus minimizing response time increases caused by additional traffic. Any delays caused by traffic congestion in this area adversely impact MCFRS resources from meeting response time goals throughout Bethesda, Chevy Chase, and North Bethesda. Although the Final EIS does not identify the installation of shoulders or emergency vehicle-use-only lanes as potential roadway improvements, I still recommend their implementation for their potential role in reducing response times.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Final EIS. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me directly at 240-777-2435 or at [tom.carr@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:tom.carr@montgomerycountymd.gov) or contact Scott Gutschick, Planning Section

Office of the Fire Chief

Memorandum to Phil Alperson  
April 17, 2008  
Page 2

Manager, at 240-777-2417 or at [scott.gutschick@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:scott.gutschick@montgomerycountymd.gov).

TWC/sag

cc: D/C Michael Love, CRRS Division, MCFRS  
Scott Gutschick, Planning Section, MCFRS